



Goat Droppings

The Official E-Newsletter of Phandemonium / Capricon

Winter 2017 Inside this issue:

Capricon 37 Progress Report
Programming Pre-Game
Capricon Book / Food Drives
Keep In Touch!
Mobile-Friendly Guide
Feeling "Board"?
Local Restaurants
Out of CON-text

CAPRICON 37



February 16-19, 2017

Pre-registration: \$65
Through January 31, 2017

\$75 for full weekend at the door.
Day rates will be available.

Online Registration is open!

Visit us today at
www.capricon.org

**Capricon 37
will be held at:**

**Westin Chicago
North Shore
601 N Milwaukee
Ave, Wheeling, IL
60090
847-777-6570**

**[www.westin.com/
chicagonorthshore](http://www.westin.com/chicagonorthshore)**

Capricon 37: And The Children Shall Lead

The kids are taking over! Join us February 16-19, 2017, at the Westin North Shore with all your friends and our wonderful Guests of Honor! We welcome Author GoH **Beth Revis**, Artist GoH **Nilah Magruder**, Fan GoH **Meg Frank**, and Special Musical Guest **Tim Griffin** — and of course, we welcome all of you back to Chicago and Capricon 37!

The kids have been working hard to prove they are worthy of leading, and they've come up with some great ideas!

- **Programming** is up and ready for your review! <http://capricon.org/capricon37/schedule/>
 - For more programming info, see page 2.
- Special Events this year are Special!
 - I scream, you scream, we all scream for ICE CREAM! Thursday evening join us for our **Ice Cream Social!** (Special note for attendees of recent Capricons—there will NOT be pizza on Thursday!)
 - The **Euchre Tournament** returns on Friday evening.
 - Concerts! Musical Guest **Tim Griffin** performs Friday afternoon in the Café and also Saturday evening in Botanic A, plus many other concerts in the café all weekend.
 - Annual fan favorites **Artist Showdown** and **Art Auction** are on Saturday night.
 - Theater! **SpaceTime Theater** performs Saturday evening.
 - **Starlight Radio Dreams** will be doing a live comedy podcast on Saturday afternoon.
 - We have **Artemis Bridge Simulator!** Friday and Saturday only in River B. More information about Artemis can be found at <http://artemis.eochu.com/>
 - **Blinkies** are back! Build your own blinky throughout the weekend! Play with soldering irons and circuit boards! Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday in River A. First 200 people get them free.
 - On Saturday, come see **Star Wars: Forgotten Realm**. It is a fan film produced in the western suburbs of Chicago. The all volunteer movie is set 10 years after *Episode III Revenge of the Sith* and sets the scene for the events of *Rogue One A Star Wars Story*. The Rebellion is in it's infancy and must thwart the Emperor's plans for conquest. Followed by a Q&A with the makers of the film.
- As usual, we'll have **Anime, Gaming, Café, Dealers Room, Art Show, Exhibits, and Consuite** for your enjoyment.
- Our evening **parties** will be awesome as always! Tip your party hosts and vote for the Party Awards!
- Fan tables for your group are still available. Email us at fantables@capricon.org.
- Volunteers are always needed to help out at the convention! If you are interested in volunteering and earning your registration fee back, email volunteers@capricon.org and let them know.

Upcoming Deadlines:

- **Current pre-registration is only \$65 until January 31!** Register online right now! Stop reading! Go!
- The **Hotel** room block has closed. If you need assistance with a reservation, please email hotel@capricon.org

CapKidz and Teen Lounge:

Our Teen Lounge will be open throughout the weekend on the 3rd Floor. There will be plenty of activities during the day and late into the evenings. We're also excited to announce that the Teen Lounge has a Steam account with a bunch of party games this year! Even if we don't have online games currently, come friend us! (We're lonely...) We're **Cap_TeenLounge** on Steam.

CapKidz (Kids' Programming) is in the Elm room. Kids are definitely leading the way in Kids Programming! Join us all weekend for crafts, games and discussions for kids - and even led by kids! We have scheduled appearances by two of the convention's special guests and the con-chair. Make sure to keep an eye on your program book as well because the kids will be everywhere this year...

Programming Pre-Game

As always, there are a few programming items that you might want to know about ahead of time so you can prepare for them. Here's this year's list!

- Phandemonium Book Club will be discussing *Across the Universe* by our Author GoH, Beth Revis. Saturday 10am.
- chicago-sf.org Book Club will be discussing *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. Friday 7pm.
- Snow Goons! If there's snow, bring your outdoor clothes and go build some snow goons! Friday 1pm.
- Hugo Awards Nominating is a panel to discuss what should be nominated this year, so bring your short list! Friday 11:30am.
- We have several authors who will have Autographing sessions, so bring your books to be signed! Full schedule online.
- Pitch Perfect is an interactive workshop for writers which will help you perfect your "elevator pitch" to publishers and readers. Friday at 5:30pm.
- Promptapalooza is a "laid back, prompt-based" writing workshop. Bring a notebook and pen or your laptop. Saturday at 1:00pm.

If you are new to Capricon, we recommend joining one of our **Convention Tours** where long-time Capricon attendees will show you around the convention, tell you fun stories, introduce you to people, and generally make sure you're prepared to have fun! Tours are Thursday (5pm and 7pm), Friday (11:30 and 5:30), and Saturday (10am). Tours leave from the convention registration area. There are also **Party Crawl** tours on Friday and Saturday night (9:30pm) to introduce you to our party floors; tours leave from the hotel lobby.

Capricon fandom grieves at the loss of three fans in the last few months: Bill Dunbar, Kathleen Meyer, and Larry Smith. Memorials for both Bill and Kathleen are being held on Friday evening, and all are welcome to come and celebrate their fannish legacies.

Book Drive and Food Drive

Many fans have often contemplated a trimming of their book collections. Don't just recycle your books — donate them to the **Science Fiction Outreach Project** so they can be the lure for new fans! We need **SF / Fantasy / Horror only** please. Children's books and YA books are very welcome. Bring your donations to Capricon in February! For more information on the Science Fiction Outreach Project, visit them on Facebook (Science Fiction Outreach Project—USA)

We will also be collecting canned goods and non-perishable items for the **Vernon Hills Food Pantry**.

All donations can be dropped off at the Info Desk.

Our easy to use, mobile-friendly guide can be found at
guide.capricon.org

You can view the full schedule and mark the items you wish to attend.

Out of CON-text

"You need people scoopers." - Peter Heltzer

"800 pounds of lemming meat." - Erik White

"Making magic with his fingers." - Terrence Miltner

For more info on Capricon 37, please visit us at www.capricon.org

For info on upcoming events, please visit us at www.capricon.org/blog or like us on Facebook

Have an Out of CON-text quote to submit?
Email us all year long at oooc@capricon.org

Feeling "Board"?

Members of Phandemonium,

In a few weeks, Capricon will host a convention with the theme, "And the Children Shall Lead". This begs the question: "Who shall lead Capricon?" The answer is our Board of Directors, and you could become a member! As a member of Capricon, you are also a voting member of Phandemonium, the parent corporation of Capricon. We are looking for members interested in making Capricon the best convention on the planet by joining our Board!

We are currently seeking candidates for two **Phandemonium Board of Directors** Member Positions. Every year the membership of Phandemonium (that's you) elects two new people to serve a three year term on the Board of Directors. The six elected board members, along with an appointed Conchair, Secretary, Treasurer, and SMOF (Supreme Minister of Fun) are tasked with keeping the corporation running and enabling the convention and other outside activities to take place. Would you be interested in helping to guide what other activities Phandemonium does to promote fandom in Chicago? Please email boardpresident@phandemonium.org for more information and to submit your candidacy.

For full details, please visit the Phandemonium Information section of our blog at <http://capricon.org/blog/phandemonium/>

Looking forward to seeing you all at Capricon in February!

Dan Berger

President of the Board, Phandemonium, Inc.

There are several restaurants within walking distance of the hotel! In addition to Saranello's in the hotel, in the parking lot are Spears, Cooper's Hawk, Twin Peaks, Dunkin' Donuts, and Subway. Spears will be offering a 15% discount to anyone with a Capricon badge! Ram and Buca di Beppo are across the street. **The hotel now has a new café with grab and go snacks, travel essentials, and beverages, including Starbucks coffee.** If you can't go the weekend without an actual Starbucks, there's one a short walk south on Milwaukee. More restaurant info will be available at the Info Desk.